

**State of California  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**TO:** Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**FROM:** Department of Parks and Recreation  
1416 Ninth Street  
P.O. Box 942896  
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

**PROJECT TITLE:** Geotechnical Investigation - Water Tank Replacement

**LOCATION:** Samuel P. Taylor State Park

**COUNTY:** Marin

**DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:**

Conduct geotechnical investigation of the soil near Camp Taylor Campground at Samuel P. Taylor State Park to determine subsurface conditions in preparation for proposed replacement of two water tanks, which may require expansion of the existing tank pads. Investigations at each tank site will include: 1) two test borings 8 inches in diameter and up to approximately 40 feet deep, 2) two impact-driven cone penetration tests two inches in diameter, 3) field geologic reconnaissance, and 4) two seismic refraction lines (geophones inserted into the ground on small spikes) on the natural slopes above the pad in evaluation of anticipated cuts. Additional borings up to 40 feet may be drilled if the initial exploration indicates possible adverse conditions for cut slope stability. The test borings will be advanced using a solid flight auger and/or rotary methods. Due to anticipated difficult access conditions at each site, a specialized track mounted drill rig will be used. If bentonite slurry is required to advance borings, then casing will be set into the ground and advanced as necessary to achieve an adequate ground seal. All bentonite drill fluid will be contained and recirculated in a tank. Soil samples will be recovered at 3-5 foot intervals. Borings shall penetrate at least 5 feet into bedrock, if encountered. Boreholes will be backfilled with either cuttings and/or bentonite chips below the groundwater table. A cement-bentonite slurry may be used above the water table to within one foot of the ground surface. The upper one foot will be backfilled with native soil. Best Management Practices will be employed to prevent surface runoff. If a mud rotary drill is used a DPR-approved Health & Safety Plan/Spill Prevention Plan will be implemented that will include management procedures to contain the bentonite drilling fluids. The drill rig and any support vehicles will be positioned to minimize soil disturbance. Any soil removed from the boreholes will be replaced in the hole or removed from the site. Work will be conducted during daylight hours. Work will occur outside the northern spotted owl breeding season of Feb. 1 - Aug. 15.

**PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT:** California Department of Parks and Recreation

**NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT:** Northern Service Center

**EXEMPT STATUS:**

☒ Categorical Exemption      Class: 6      Section: 15306

**REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:**

Project consists of basic data collection, research, and resource evaluation activities that do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource.

**CONTACT:** Gail Sevrens, Northern Service Center

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**Kathleen Amann, Acting Deputy Director, No. Svc. Ctr.**

**DATE** \_\_\_\_\_